

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-9, and 13, rejected for various reasons under §§ 102 and 112, have been canceled. Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims submitted here define patentable subject matter.

§ 102 Rejection

Claims 1, 5-9, and 13, rejected under § 102 based on Cravello (U.S. 5,690,826), have been cancelled.

The new claims presented here recite these limitations:

1. The support structure has at least one projection and the panel's sides are deflectable with respect to the at least one projection
2. The panel sides are deflectable downwardly with respect to the at least one projection

New claim 64 recites that the at least one projection is two spaced-apart projections. New claim 66 includes the deflection apparatus. New claim 68 recites that the at least one projection is a tubular member.

Cravello neither teaches nor suggests the limitations listed above. Cravello is directed to providing a stable compartmentalized filter assembly for retrofitting existing shakers. The corrugated filter 60 of Cravello is firmly held in place within a rigid compartment 12 with a rigid lid 62 pressed down on the filter 60. No deflection of the filter 60 is possible. Blades 80 of lid 62 engage the filter 60 to hold it in place.

Cravello explicitly requires that the filter 60 be sealingly held against the lips 30 of the bottom 32. Cravello explicitly teaches away from deflection of the filter 60:

When the lid 62 is closed, the blades 80 press the valleys 82 of the filter 60 in mating fashion into the valleys 84 of the corrugated lips 30, thereby sealing the front and rear edges of the filter 60 to the corrugated lips 30 provided at the front and rear ends 18 and 24 of the front compartment 12 and at the

same time the blades 80 press the full length of the valleys 84 of the corrugated filter 60 against the perforated bottom 32 of the compartment 12, thereby firmly securing the filter 60 in the compartment 12 and preventing it from being displaced or flexed by the vibrating motion of the shaker 58. (Cravello, Col. 8, lines 44 - 54)

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims discussed above define novel, patentable subject matter.

§ 112 Rejection

The claims rejected under § 112 have been canceled. Applicant submits that the new claims submitted here are definite and that their terms have proper antecedent basis.

Section Headings

Submitted herewith are amendments to the Specification including the required section headings for the Application. Marked-up pages and new clean paragraphs are submitted herewith.

Conclusion

Applicant appreciates the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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